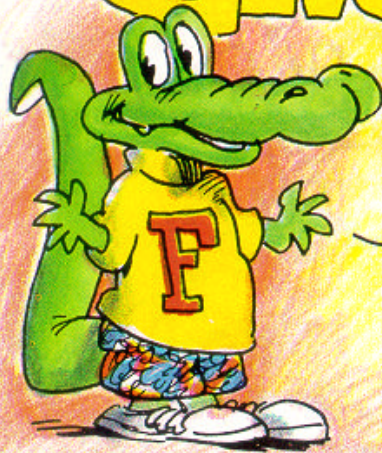


Give me a Break!

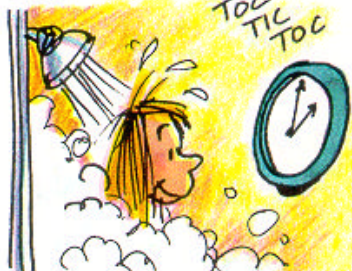


What can I tell you? Water's important stuff. It got us to where we are, and we're going to need it to keep on keeping on.



So where's the bulletin in all of this? Well, without water we'd all die, and without enough water life would be very difficult. We had a drought in 1981, and a West Coast shortage in 1985. With South Floridians using an average of 212 gallons per person per day, it doesn't take a very dry year to put us in the hole, so to speak.

So, here's Freddy's Bottom Line—



In the Bathroom

—**Shorter Showers:** You use 5-to-7 gallons of water per minute in the shower. If you shower 3 minutes instead of 10, you save about 40 gallons.

—**Tub Baths:** If you fill the tub you use about 35 gallons. If you only use half a tub, you save 15-20 gallons.

—**Brushing Teeth:** You can save 10-to-25 gallons per week by turning off the faucet while you brush your teeth.

—**Toilet Flushing:** The toilet uses 5-to-7 gallons per flush; avoid using it as a wastebasket.



In the Kitchen

—**The Dishwasher:** Every load uses about 15 gallons; wash only full loads and scrape dishes instead of pre-rinsing—you'll save 30-60 gallons per week.

—**Waiting for Hot:** While waiting for hot water, catch the lukewarm water in a container and use it for watering house plants.

—**Waiting for Cold:** Instead of waiting for colder water to come from the tap, keep a pitcher of ice water in the refrigerator.

In the Laundry

—**The Washing Machine:** Clothes washers use up to 60 gallons per load; save hundreds of gallons per month with full loads or by using your variable load control.

Outdoor Use

① **Car Washing:** A garden hose puts out 300-500 gallons per hour; use a bucket for soapy water and a hose with an automatic shutoff nozzle for rinsing.

② **Gutter Flooding:** Aim sprinklers where they'll do some good—pavement is very drought-tolerant.

③ **Garden Watering:** Over-watering and evaporation can waste thousands of gallons; water only on the mornings of days when plants start to droop.

④ **Landscaping:** Drought-tolerant plants—the kind that don't need watering—come in many varieties, are beautiful, and don't require precious water during dry spells. The key word here is Xeriscape—water conservation through creative landscaping.